



Fertigkeit	Lesen
Relevante(r) Deskriptor(en)	<b>Deskriptor 3:</b> Kann einfachen, klar gegliederten Texten zu vertrauten Themen in Zeitungen und Zeitschriften die wesentlichen Informationen entnehmen, wenn sie gegebenenfalls mit visueller Unterstützung ausgestattet sind (B1).
Themenbereich(e)	Schule und Arbeitswelt
Zeitbedarf	15 Minuten
Länge des Lesetextes	Etwa 400 Wörter
Material- und Medienbedarf	Schreibmaterial
Besondere Bemerkungen, Hinweise zur Durchführung	---
Quelle	<i>Mary Glasgow Magazines. CLUB. Issue Nr. 4. March 2002. [adaptiert]</i>



## AN AU-PAIR IN LONDON

Read the interview with an au pair carefully.  
Then match the questions below with the right answer.

**Be careful – two of the ten questions do NOT fit!**

### Questions:

- (1) What sort of work is normal for an au pair?
- (2) Have you had much experience with children?
- (3) What tips would you have for people looking for au pair work? For example, does your English have to be very good?
- (4) So Lissi, first of all, what made you want to become an au pair?
- (5) So what problems do au pairs have to deal with?
- (6) Why do you think your family is nice?
- (7) And how did you find your job?
- (8) Has your English become a lot better being an au pair?
- (9) Then they choose a family for you or do you have a choice?
- (10) And what did you do once you'd found a good agency?



## An au-pair in London




Lissi: I'd visited London twice before with my school and I'd always liked it. There's a great mix of cultures and it's impossible to be bored, so after I finished studying I decided to stay in London for longer.

Lissi: A bit but not too much. I have always liked working with children so I knew it wouldn't be a problem. You do have to get on with kids.

Lissi: I looked up a few agencies on the Internet but it was hard to know which one was good. In the end a friend recommended the agency I chose.

Lissi: Just sent them my name and address. There's a small fee for administration. They'll ask you what type of family you are looking for. Also, if they are a good agency, they will put you in touch with other au pairs who can confirm they are good, so that's always a good thing to check out. My agency even organised excursions and contact numbers of other au pairs so we weren't lonely when we arrived.

Lissi: They pick out possible families and you go and have an interview with the family. It's extremely important that you get on and like each other. So both you and the family can say 'No thanks', if necessary. Luckily I found a family I really liked. They are great.

Lissi: The kids are nice. When the family went on holiday they took me with them. But some people I know had families that weren't so nice. They were suspicious, told the au pairs when to be home at night, forced them to do a lot of housework and gave them so much to do that they had no time to do a language course, which was the reason they were in Britain!

Lissi: About 20 – 30 hours a week; helping to prepare dinner and breakfast. Learn the names of foods – it's very useful! Help get the kids ready for school. I also do a little bit of tidying up, perhaps a bit of ironing.

Lissi: Not really. You can get by with a little English, the kids will teach you very quickly. But bring some money with you. London is expensive and you won't be able to pay for things like language courses or trips around Britain with the money you get paid. Learn to iron! Don't be shy. If you are weak, a five-year-old will totally take advantage of you!



## An au-pair in London

### (4) So Lissi, first of all, what made you want to become an au pair?

Lissi: I'd visited London twice before with my school and I'd always liked it. There's a great mix of cultures and it's impossible to be bored, so after I finished studying I decided to stay in London for longer.

### (2) Have you had much experience with children?

Lissi: A bit but not too much. I have always liked working with children so I knew it wouldn't be a problem. You do have to get on with kids.

### (7) And how did you find your job?

Lissi: I looked up a few agencies on the Internet but it was hard to know which one was good. In the end a friend recommended the agency I chose.

### (10) And what did you do once you'd found a good agency?

Lissi: Just sent them my name and address. There's a small fee for administration. They'll ask you what type of family you are looking for. Also, if they are a good agency, they will put you in touch with other au pairs who can confirm they are good, so that's always a good thing to check out. My agency even organised excursions and contact numbers of other au pairs so we weren't lonely when we arrived.

### (9) Then they choose a family for you or do you have a choice?

Lissi: They pick out possible families and you go and have an interview with the family. It's extremely important that you get on and like each other. So both you and the family can say 'No thanks', if necessary. Luckily I found a family I really liked. They are great.

### (6) Why do you think your family is nice?

Lissi: The kids are nice. When the family went on holiday they took me with them. But some people I know had families that weren't so nice. They were suspicious, told the au pairs when to be home at night, forced them to do a lot of housework and gave them so much to do that they had no time to do a language course, which was the reason they were in Britain!

### (1) What sort of work is normal for an au pair?

Lissi: About 20 – 30 hours a week; helping to prepare dinner and breakfast. Learn the names of foods – it's very useful! Help get the kids ready for school. I also do a little bit of tidying up, perhaps a bit of ironing.

### (3) What tips would you have for people looking for au pair work? For example, does your English have to be very good?

Lissi: Not really. You can get by with a little English, the kids will teach you very quickly. But bring some money with you. London is expensive and you won't be able to pay for things like language courses or trips around Britain with the money you get paid. Learn to iron! Don't be shy. If you are weak, a five-year-old will totally take advantage of you!